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HOUSE BILL 986

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

J. "ANDY" KISSNER

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO ACQUIRE RIGHTS OF WAY AND DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 70 FROM THE  
INTERCHANGE WITH INTERSTATE 10 TO WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE IN  
DONA ANA COUNTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. --

A. The legislature finds that Las Cruces, its  
suburbs and neighboring communities have grown tremendously in  
the last few years with the highest growth rate occurring in the  
census tracts immediately adjacent to United States highway 70.

B. The legislature further finds that United States  
highway 70, a major feeder highway that connects Las Cruces with  
Tucson, has the highest traffic count in the southern part of  
the state.

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C. The legislature further finds that the accident rate along the fourteen-mile segment between the community of Organ and interstate 25 is unacceptably high. An appropriation is necessary to make the improvements that will provide for the safety of the citizens and ensure the opportunity for development and expansion of space-related facilities.

Section 2. APPROPRIATION. --

A. Thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) is appropriated from the state road fund to the state highway and transportation department for expenditure in fiscal years 1998 through 2005 for the purpose of acquiring rights of way and designing and constructing improvements to United States highway 70 between the interstate 10 interchange and White Sands missile range in Dona Ana county. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2005 shall revert to the state road fund.

B. The expenditure authorized in Subsection A of this section is contingent upon congressional appropriation of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) and the city of Las Cruces allocating six million dollars (\$6,000,000) in matching funds.

**State of New Mexico**  
**House of Representatives**

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**FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST SESSION, 1997**

February 27, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 986

has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it DO NOT PASS, but that

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 986

DO PASS, and thence referred to the APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel P. Silva, Chairman

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: Olguin, Rodella, Watchman, Whitaker

Absent: W. C. Williams

M \H0986

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 986

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO ACQUIRE RIGHTS OF WAY AND DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 70 FROM THE  
INTERCHANGE WITH INTERSTATE 25 TO WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE IN  
DONA ANA COUNTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. --

A. The legislature finds that Las Cruces, its  
suburbs and neighboring communities have grown tremendously in  
the last few years with the highest growth rate occurring in the  
census tracts immediately adjacent to United States highway 70.

B. The legislature further finds that United States  
highway 70, a major feeder highway that connects Las Cruces with  
Tucson, has the highest traffic count in the southern part of  
the state.

C. The legislature further finds that the accident  
rate along the fourteen-mile segment between the community of  
Organ and interstate 25 is unacceptably high. An appropriation

.117827.1

1 is necessary to make the improvements that will provide for the  
2 safety of the citizens and ensure the opportunity for  
3 development and expansion of space-related facilities.

4 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. --Contingent upon congressional  
5 appropriation of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) and the  
6 city of Las Cruces allocating six million dollars (\$6,000,000)  
7 in matching funds, thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) is  
8 appropriated from the general fund to the state highway and  
9 transportation department for expenditure in fiscal years 1998  
10 through 2005 for the purpose of acquiring rights of way and  
11 designing and constructing improvements to United States highway  
12 70 between the interstate 25 interchange and White Sands missile  
13 range in Dona Ana county. Any unexpended or unencumbered  
14 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2005 shall revert to  
15 the general fund.